

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Action, Applicant believes that the first rejection under 35 U.S.C. 251 in the Office Action has been overcome since the maintenance fee for US Patent 6,005,306 has been accepted by the Office and the patent is currently in force.

Applicant submits herewith an executed Supplemental Declaration For A Reissue Patent Application To Correct "Errors" Statement (37 C.F.R. 1.175). Accordingly, Applicant now declares that every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application and which is not covered by the prior declaration submitted in this application arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the Applicant.

Claims 20 and 34 have been amended to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.173. Claim 26 has been canceled.

Applicant submits herewith statements identifying an ownership interest in the patent by the inventor, Andrew M. Pickard. These statements are believed to clarify the ownership interests of all owners of any rights in the patent for which reissue is requested and each owner has consented to the reissue pursuant to the statements submitted herewith and previously submitted in this application. The consent of the owner of a one-third interest, Andrew M. Pickard, is believed to be inherent since Mr. Pickard is the sole inventor and has executed the reissue inventor declarations.

Pursuant to the rejection of Claims 20 through 22, 28 through 31 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being an improper recapture, Applicant has canceled Claim 26 and incorporated the subject matter of that claim into Claim 20. Claims 21, 22 and 28 through 31 remain in the application dependent on amended Claim 20. Claims 20 through 22, and 28 through 31 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 43 has been amended per this amendment to include the recitation of canceled Claim 44. Claim 43 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Pursuant to this amendment, Claims 1 through 22, 28 through 32, 34, 38 through 43 and 45 are believed to be in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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